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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/773,681	02/06/2004	Pradeep Bahl	M1103.70234US00	7805

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EXAMINER
HUSSAIN, TAUQIR

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2452	

NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
03/04/2011	ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

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	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	10/773,681	BAHL ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	TAUQIR HUSSAIN	2452	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE _3_ MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _01/13/2011_.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) _1-10,14, 16, 18--23 and 25-47_ is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _22-23, 25-39 and 47_ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) _1-10,14, 16, 18-21, and 40-46_ is/are rejected.

7)☒ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _01/13/2011, 02/15/2011_.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6)☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1.   A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 12/17/2010 has been entered.

Response to Amendment

2.   This office action is in response to amendment/reconsideration filed on 12/17/2010, the amendment/reconsideration has been considered. Claims 16 and 22 have been amended. Claims 1-10, 14, 16, 18-23 and 25-47 are pending for examination, the rejection cited as stated below.

Response to Arguments

3.   Applicant's arguments filed on 12/17/2010 have been fully considered but they are moot in view of new grounds of rejection.

4.   Rejection to the claims under U.S.C 101, is hereby maintained as the phrase "computer readable medium" still incorporates the broaden meanings in the art as transitory medium.

5.   Rejection to claims 16 and 22 under U.S.C 112 second paragraph is withdrawn in light of amendments filed on 12/17/2010 in reference to the above claims.

Claim Objections

6.   Claims 1, 16, 22 and 40 are objected to because of the following informalities:

Claim 1 recite "generating a value for at least one derived network <u>DNA</u>

component according to at least one derived network <u>DNA</u> component specification,

each derived network <u>DNA</u> component...." at least in lines 7-8 (claim 1), lines 5-6 (claim

16), lines 3-4 (claim 22) and line 2 (claim 40) are cited just an exemplary purposes.

DNA is an abbreviation and applicant needs to define the specific phrase what DNA

stands for. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

7.   35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

> Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of
> matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the
> conditions and requirements of this title.

8.   Claims 1-10, 14, 16, 18-21 and 40-46 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because

the claimed invention is directed to nonstatutory subject matter.

The claim is drawn to a "computer readable medium" comprising stored data.

The specification is silent regarding the meaning of this term. Thus, applying the

broadest reasonable interpretation in light of the specification [0024] and taking into

account the meaning of the words in their ordinary usage as they would be understood

by one of ordinary skill in the art (MPEP 2111), the claim as a whole covers a transitory

signal, which does not fall within the definition of a process, machine, manufacture, or

composition of matter.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

9.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set
> forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and
> the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the
> invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains.
> Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

10.   As to claims 1, 6-10 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C 103(a) as being

unpatentable over Melpignano et al (Pub No.: US 2006/0084417 A1), hereinafter

"Melpignano", in view of Mayer, (Pub. No.: US 2002/0178246 A1), hereinafter "Mayer".

11.   **As to claim 1**, Ayyagari discloses, acquiring at least one network attribute, ,

each network attribute corresponding to an attribute of a computer network

(Melpignano, Abstract, scanning is acquiring the available network infrastructure

corresponding the network attributes i.e. power consumption, signal strength mobility

profiles, cellular, PAN etc.);

generating a value for at least one derived network DNA component according to

at least one derived network DNA component specification, each derived network DNA

component corresponding to an attribute of the computer network (Melpignano,

paragraph [0008], client device communicate with network in accordance with one of a

plurality of communications standards which is same as "value for at least one derived

network DNA component" and makes a selection for connection to network from among

a plurality of network interfaces, device in use makes a selection automatically and

according to a predetermined network interface selection policy implemented in client

device.), and at least one of said at least one derived network DNA component

specification referencing at least one of said at least one network attribute and

processing by which the value of the derived network DNA component is generated

from the referenced at least one network attribute (Melpignano, paragraph [0010],

network interface selection policy may include a consideration of at least one of location

or context awareness, preferably including a mobility parameter indicative of whether a

said location or context is dynamic or static and/or an indication of how such information

has been gathered); and

determining a network DNA for the computer network, the network DNA

classifying the computer network (Melpignano, paragraph [0008], client device

communicate with network in accordance with one of a plurality of communications

standards), and the network DNA comprising at least one of said at least one derived

network DNA component (Melpignano, paragraph [0009 network interface selection

policy may be selected for implementation by user intervention or by said client device

itself from among a predefined set of said selection policies stored which includes

various network DNA components).

initiating on the computer connected to the computer network an execution of a

network DNA policy action of the network DNA policy, the execution of the network DNA

policy action configuring network security settings of the computer that control

communication over a connection to the computer network, when the network DNA

policy condition of the network DNA policy is satisfied (Melpignano, paragraph [0035],

network interfaces in a client device may be selected automatically according to user-defined policies whenever a mobile terminal MT has multiple choices available. These policies may take several factors into account including data transfer speed, power consumption, user mobility profiles, cached context information, security authorizations and connection costs.).

Ayyagari however is silent on disclosing explicitly, testing a network DNA policy condition of a network DNA policy for satisfaction, the network DNA policy condition referencing at least one of said at least one derived network DNA component and the network DNA policy condition is satisfied when the referenced derived network DNA component has a value specified in the network DNA policy.

Mayer however discloses, testing a network DNA policy condition of a network DNA policy for satisfaction, the network DNA policy condition referencing at least one of said at least one derived network DNA component (Mayer, Fig.2, [0015], where analysis platform collects configuration files from the relevant network devices and builds up an internal instance of a network configuration model based on the configuration files and the network topology which relates to network DNA policy condition referencing network DNA component and further as disclosed in [0033], In step 245, the analysis platform determines whether a violation of the network policy has been detected); and

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Melpignano with the teachings of Mayer in order to provide a platform analyzer to simulate network configuration model according to the network policy and adds an entry to its final report each time that it

detects a violation against the network policy in the network configuration model. The

data in the entries pinpoints the cause of the deviation(s) from the network policy

(Mayer, paragraph [0041]).

12.   **As to claim 6**, the combined system of Melpignano and Mayer discloses the

invention as in parent claim above, including, wherein at least one of said at least one

derived network DNA component specification comprises an object oriented language

statement (Melpignano, Fig.3, elements-200-214 are data structure, paragraph [0066],

disclosed is a database which is written in OOP or object oriented language).

13.   **As to claim 7**, the combined system of Melpignano and Mayer discloses the

invention as in parent claim above, including, wherein at least one of said at least one

derived network DNA component specification comprises a scripting language

statement (Melpignano, paragraph [0038], UML is a scripting language.).

14.   **As to claim 8**, the combined system of Melpignano and Mayer discloses the

invention as in parent claim above, including, wherein acquiring at least one network

attribute comprises acquiring a plurality of network attributes in an order specified by an

acquisition priority list, the plurality of networks attributes specified by the acquisition

priority list comprising at least a subset of a domain name, one or more IP addresses,

verified presence of network infrastructure elements, parameters received from a

network server, a communications media type, a service provider, a nominal available

communications bandwidth, a measured available communications bandwidth, logical

network location and physical network location (Melpignano, paragraph [0039] and

[0040], This "ScanInterfaces" 110 use case includes testing the physical availability of the network interface, checking its status and verifying that it can actually provide connectivity. When a wireless infrastructure is found and the policy allows it, the system 10 tries to connect to it to check if the link is usable and to keep its network connections ("Preconnect" 112). This may include, in the example case of a Bluetooth infrastructure, inquiring for access points AP.sub.2, connecting to them and performing service discovery and authorization procedures, as specified in the Personal Area Network (PAN) profile or in the LAN access profile and other parameters are discloses, in paragraph [0035], i.e. data transfer speed, power consumption, user mobility profiles, cached context information, security authorizations and connection costs etc.).

15.   **As to claim 9**, the combined system of Melpignano and Mayer discloses the invention as in parent claim above, including, wherein the order specified by the acquisition priority list is in accord with an ordered set of network DNA policies that reference the plurality of network attributes (Melpignano, paragraph [0039], The user indicates his/her preferences in the "ConfigureSettings" 100 use case: this can be a GUI (graphical user interface) tool where a set of NISPs can be defined and other settings specified as well. "SelectPolicy" 102 activates one specific NISP and it can be invoked either manually by the user or by a software agent, i.e. NicAgent 104, which is a software daemon that supervises the whole network selection system 10 in the mobile terminal MT. The NicAgent 104 may decide to change policy, if the user has allowed this behavior in the configuration settings of the device.).

16.   **As to claim 10**, the combined system of Melpignano and Mayer discloses the

invention as in parent claim above, including, wherein generating at least one derived

network DNA component comprises generating each derived network DNA component

referenced by a derived network DNA refresh list, the derived network DNA refresh list

referencing at least one derived network DNA component dependent upon at least one

acquired network attribute (Melpignano, [0036], The user may select one network

interface selection policy (NISP) among a predefined set or define its own new NISP.

Once a policy is selected, the mobile device will use the preferred network interface

(provided it is available) and will periodically scan for other usable network

infrastructures.).

17.   **As to claim 14**, the combined system of Melpignano and Mayer discloses the

invention as in parent claim above, including, wherein the network DNA policy reduces

a probability of security vulnerability when switching between computer networks

(Melpignano, [0036], The user may select one network interface selection policy (NISP)

among a predefined set or define its own new NISP. Once a policy is selected, the

mobile device will use the preferred network interface (provided it is available) and will

periodically scan for other usable network infrastructures.).

18.   Claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Melpignano and Mayer as applied to parent claim above in view of Ayyagari et al. (Pub.

No.: US 2002/0176366 A1), hereinafter "Ayyagari".

19.   **As to claim 2**, the combined system of Melpignano and Mayer discloses the

invention as parent claim 1 above, including, wherein said at least one derived network

DNA component comprises a network species component indicating a network species

classification selected from among a plurality of network species classifications includes

a home network ((Melpignano, paragraph [0052], the Context class 214 keeps

information about the environment surrounding the user, including a location name (e.g.

"office" or "home") and a list of reachable access points AP.sub.1-3. A mobility index

parameter is included to indicate whether the location and/or context are a dynamic one

or a static one and paragraph [0035], policies may take several factors into account

including data transfer speed, power consumption, user mobility profiles, cached

context information, security authorizations and connection costs.).

Melpignano however is silent on disclosing explicitly, the plurality of network

species classifications comprising an enterprise network, and a public place network.

Melpignano however is silent on disclosing explicitly, plurality of network species

classification includes an enterprise network and public place network.

Ayyagari however discloses a similar concept as, plurality of network species

classification includes an enterprise network and public place network (Ayyagari,

paragraph [0008], user has an option to select an infrastructure mode between various

network i.e. enterprise / corporate network or public place network i.e. airport, hotel

etc.).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skilled in the art at

the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Melpignano and Mayer

with the teachings of Ayyagari in order to provide a system that periodically scan across

all wireless channels to determine currently available infrastructure networks and

machines currently using the ad hoc mode. Based on the scan the system may attempt

to associate with a particular infrastructure network based on either an a priori criteria or

based on programmatically generated criteria (Ayyagari, paragraph [0011]).

20.   Claims 3-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Melpignano and Mayer as applied to claims above in view of Anderson et al. (Pub. No.:

US 2004/0068582 A1), hereinafter "Anderson".

21.   **As to claim 3**, the combined system of Melpignano and Mayer discloses the

invention as applied to parent claim above, including, wherein at least one of said at

least one derived network DNA component specification comprises at least one value of

at least one of said at least one network attribute (Melpignano, paragraph [0052], A

mobility index parameter is included to indicate whether the location and/or context is a

dynamic one or a static one).

Melpignano and Mayer however are silent on, "a linear transformation".

Anderson however discloses," a linear transformation" (Anderson, [0186], where

network confidence level is Network DNA component is calculated based on linear

combination of each of constituent confidence factor field).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one ordinary skilled in the art at the time

the invention was made to combine the teachings of Melpignano and Mayer with the

teachings of Anderson in order to provide a hierarchy of network DNA with respect to

network DNA confidence level which will help developing network architectural models
in future.

22.   **As to claim 4**, the combined system of Melpignano, Ayyagari and Anderson
discloses the invention as applied to parent claim above, including, wherein said at least
one derived network DNA component specification comprises a combination of said at
least one network attribute (Melpignano, paragraph [0034], form of an access point AP
will depend on the access technology under consideration. IEEE 802.11b has its own
access points AP.sub.1 as does Bluetooth AP.sub.2, whereas the access points
AP.sub.3 for GPRS may be referred to in the art as base stations BS. The Bluetooth
access points AP.sub.2 may connect through a dedicated router 14, while a further
router 16 may be provided for WLAN access via the IEEE 802.1 b access points
AP.sub.1.).

23.   As to claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C 103(a) as being unpatentable over
Melpignano and Mayer as applied to parent claim above, in view of Beadles et al
(Patent No.: US 7159125 B2), hereinafter "Beadles".

24.   **As to claim 5**, the combined system of Melpignano and Mayer disclose the
invention substantially as in parent claim 1 above. Ayyagari and Mayer however is silent
on disclosing, "wherein at least one of said at least one derived network DNA
component specification comprises a structured query language statement".

Beadles however, discloses, "wherein at least one of said at least one derived
network DNA component specification comprises a structured query language

statement" (Beadles, Col.7, lines 5-6, where Network policy store/Network DNA is

implemented as SQL server database, further these policy's can be written in any other

well known languages in the art e.g. pearl, Visual basic etc.).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one ordinary skilled in the art at the

time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Melpignano and Mayer with

the teachings of Beadles in order to provide device management policy to have control

over network via developing a policy to associated network devices.

25.   Claims 40-42 are rejected under 35 U.S.C 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Melpignano as applied to claims above in view of Ayyagari et al. (Pub. No.: US

2002/0176366 A1), hereinafter "Ayyagari".

26.   **As to claim 40**, Melpignano discloses, a computer-storage medium having

stored thereon a data structure comprising a network DNA of a computer network

(Melpignano, [0048], memory), the network DNA comprising at least one network

classification component for taxonomically classifying the computer network, the at least

one network classification component accessed by a computer to determine a

configuration of said computer, the at least one network classification component of the

network DNA comprising (Melpignano, Abstract, Scanning of the available network

infrastructures is performed by a specific software agent implemented in a mobile

device. User mobility profiles, power consumption, cached context information and

application requirements are taken into account so that the end user can always

communicate through the most appropriate network interface without explicit manual

intervention.):

a network species component configured to indicate a network species

classification of the computer network, the network species classification selected from

among a plurality of network species classifications including home network and the

network species classification determined as a function of, at least, a type of network

security, a type of network management and a type of network addressing (Melpignano,

paragraph [0052], the Context class 214 keeps information about the environment

surrounding the user, including a location name (e.g. "office" or "home") and a list of

reachable access points AP.sub.1-3. A mobility index parameter is included to indicate

whether the location and/or context are a dynamic one or a static one and paragraph

[0035], policies may take several factors into account including data transfer speed,

power consumption, user mobility profiles, cached context information, security

authorizations and connection costs.).

Melpignano however is silent on disclosing explicitly, network classification

includes an enterprise network and public place network.

Ayyagari however discloses a similar concept as, network classification includes,

an enterprise network and public place network (Ayyagari, paragraph [0008], user has

an option to select an infrastructure mode between various network i.e. enterprise /

corporate network or public place network i.e. airport, hotel etc.).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skilled in the art at

the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Melpignano with the

teachings of Ayyagari in order to provide a system that periodically scan across all wireless channels to determine currently available infrastructure networks and machines currently using the ad hoc mode. Based on the scan the system may attempt to associate with a particular infrastructure network based on either an a priori criteria or based on programmatically generated criteria (Ayyagari, paragraph [0011]).

27.   **As to claim 41**, the combined system of Melpignano and Ayyagari discloses the invention substantially as in parent claim including, wherein the network species classifications are determined as a function of, at least, network security, network management, network addressing, network mobility, network connectivity and network technology (Melpignano, paragraph [0035], policies may take several factors into account including data transfer speed, power consumption, user mobility profiles, cached context information, security authorizations and connection costs and paragraph [0050], defines the type of network i.e. WLAN, Bluetooth, GPRS et; addressing i.e. IP address, default gateway etc.).

28.   **As to claim 42**, , the combined system of Melpignano and Ayyagari discloses the invention substantially as in parent claim including, wherein the network DNA further comprises:

a network name component (Melpignano Fig.3, element- 214, home or office);

a network cost component (Melpignano, paragraph [0035], connection costs)

a core access component (Melpignano, Fig.3, element-202, a type (WLAN, Bluetooth, GPRS) ;

a core addressing component (Melpignano, Fig.3, element-202, IP address);

a network security component; (Melpignano, paragraph [0051], encryption); and

a network technology component (Melpignano, Fig.3, element-202, a type

(WLAN, Bluetooth, GPRS).

29.   Claims 43-44 are rejected under 35 U.S.C 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Melpignano and Ayyagari as applied to parent claim above in view of Anderson et al.

(Pub. No.: US 2004/0068582 A1), hereinafter "Anderson".

30.   **As to claim 43**, the combined system of Melpignano and Ayyagari disclose the

invention as in parent claim above.

Melpignano and Ayyagari however are silent on disclosing explicitly, "wherein the

network DNA further comprises a confidence level for each of the at least one network

classification component".

Anderson however, discloses, "wherein the network DNA further comprises a

confidence level for each network classification component" (Anderson, Fig.28, [00196],

where fuzzy and crisp logic with confidence level is disclosed).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skilled in the art at the

time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Melpignano and Ayyagari with

the teachings of Anderson in order to provide a hierarchy of network DNA with respect

to network DNA confidence level which will help developing network architectural

models in future.

31.   **As to claim 44**, the combined system of Melpignano, Ayyagari and Anderson

disclose the invention as in parent claim above, including, at least one value of at least

one of the network classification component is determined probabilistically (Anderson,

[0196], where network address is located probabilistically); and

the confidence level of said at least one of at least network classification

component determined probabilistically corresponds to a margin of error in the

determination (Anderson, Fig.28, [0196], where probability means result is based on

margin of error).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skilled in the art at the

time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Melpignano and Ayyagari with

the teachings of Anderson in order to provide a system to calculate the probability of

confidence level by displaying a graph illustrating correctness of location determinants

as a function of post-location synthesis process confidence factor, and a smoothed

probability of correctness given a confidence factor range (Anderson, paragraph

[0039]).

32.   Claim 45 is rejected under 35 U.S.C 103 (a) as being unpatentable over

Melpignano and Mayer as applied to parent claim above, in views of Williams et al.

(Pub. No.: US 2005/0257267 A1), hereinafter "Williams".

33.   **As to claim 45**, the combined system of Melpignano, Mayer discloses the

invention as in parent claim above.

Melpignano and Mayer however are silent on disclosing explicitly, the value of each derived network DNA component has a confidence level associated therewith; and

the network DNA policy condition is satisfied when the referenced derived network DNA component has a value specified in the network DNA policy and the confidence level for the value of the referenced derived network components is above a threshold.

Williams however discloses a similar concept as, the value of each derived network DNA component is associated with a confidence level (Williams, Fig.3, recommendation engine, [0078], where recommendation engine is provide a confidence level and each policy is associated with confidence level); and

sufficient network DNA has been acquired for the network DNA policy if the confidence level of each network DNA component referenced by the network DNA policy condition of the network DNA policy is greater than zero (Williams, [0144], where mapping score is above a given threshold and where threshold can be a zero).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Melpignano and Mayer with the teachings of Williams in order to provide a one or more audit servers strategically deployed around the network employ heterogeneous data-gathering tools to gather information about the network in response to the configured audits, and transmit the gathered information to the compliance server. An audit repository stores the gathered information for use by the compliance server for security and regulatory

policy assessment, network vulnerability analysis, report generation, and security

improvement recommendations.

Allowable Subject Matter

34.   Claims 22-23, 25-39 and 47 are allowed.

Reasons for Allowance

35.   This communication warrants no examiner's reason for allowance, as applicant's

reply makes evident the reason for allowance, satisfying the record as whole as

required by rule 37 CFR 1.104 (e). In this case, the substance of applicant's remarks in

the Amendment filed on February 17, 2009 with respect to the amended claim

limitations point out the reason claims are patentable over the prior art of record. Thus,

the reason for allowance is in all probability evident from the record and no statement

for examiner's reason for allowance is necessary (see MPEP 13202.14).

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to TAUQIR HUSSAIN whose telephone number is

(571)270-1247. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Thu V. Nguyen can be reached on (571) 272-6967. The fax phone number

for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the

Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for

published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

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For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should

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Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a

USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information

system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/TAUQIR HUSSAIN/
Examiner, Art Unit 2452